

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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14-12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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O R 170712Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7105

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 3760

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR, US, IS, EG

SUBJECT : RETURN OF RABIN

1. CHARGE AND POL COUNSELOR WERE AT AIRPORT FOR RABIN'S ARRIVAL LAST NIGHT. IT WAS CLEAR FROM DISCUSSION AMONG ASSEMBLED CABINET MINISTERS AND OTHER GOI SENIOR OFFICIALS PRIOR TO RABIN'S ARRIVAL THAT CABINET HAD BEEN ON ALERT THROUGHOUT RABIN'S ABSENCE TO BE READY FOR EMERGENCY SESSION TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE NEW PROPOSALS RE AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT UNLESS THERE WERE NEW PROPOSALS FOR CABINET TO CONSIDER, RABIN WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT REPORT TO JERUSALEM UNTIL HIS RETURN. THERE WAS, THEREFORE, AN AIR OF ANTICIPATION AMONG THE DIGNITARIES ASSEMBLED AT THE AIRPORT, WITH SOME SPECIFIC INTEREST EXPRESSED RE THE IMPACT OF RABIN'S OPENING PRESENTATION TO PRESIDENT FORD.

2. WHILE RABIN MET THE PRESS AFTER ARRIVAL, SENIOR MEMBERS HIS ENTOURAGE DISCUSSED RESULTS OF VISIT IN GUARDED MANNER, MAKING THREE POINTS: (1) RABIN HAD BROUGHT BACK SOME PROPOSALS FOR THE CABINET TO CONSIDER; (2) WHILE CAUTIOUSLY HOPEFUL, NOTHING REPEAT NOTHING "WAS SET OR DECIDED" RE NEXT STEPS; AND (3) IF THERE WERE TO BE A NEW AGREEMENT, BOTH SIDES WOULD HAVE TO GIVE.

3. IN HIS REMARKS TO THE PRESS (SEE FBIS TEL AVIV 170630Y), RABIN CONFIRMED THAT THE CABINET WOULD MEET AT 1600 LOCAL TODAY, JUNE 17 TO HEAR PRIME CONFIDENTIAL

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MINISTER'S REPORT. IT IS NOT CLEAR IF CABINET WILL BE ASKED

TO CONSIDER NEW PROPOSALS TODAY; THERE IS SOME SUGGESTION THAT RABIN WILL MAKE HIS REPORT TODAY, AND CABINET MEETING ON SUNDAY, JUNE 22 WILL BE DECISION-MAKING SESSION.

4. IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT RABIN'S RECEPTIONS AT AIRPORT AND IN THE UPSTAIRS LOUNGE HAD ALL THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A BIG FAMILY GATHERING WITH MOST MINISTERS AND DIGNITARIES COMING WELL BEFORE ARRIVAL TIME AND LINGERING FOR DISCUSSIONS IN SMALL GROUPS, INCLUDING WITH PRIME MINISTER AFTER HIS PRESS CONFERENCE. EXCEPTION TO THIS WAS DEFMIN PERES WHO CAME LATE AND LEFT EARLY.
VELIOTES

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